

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 NIC-01 IO-04 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-04

LAB-01 SIL-01 /080 W

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R 061600Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5113

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

CINCPAC AND CINCUSNAVEUR ALSO FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 14976

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XO, IN, MARR

SUBJECT: LEFTIST CONFERENCE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN

REF: PORT LOUIS 1903

1. POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
JOINT SECRETARY J.C. AJMANI NOVEMBER 6 TO INQUIRE ABOUT PRESS
REPORTS THAT FORTY NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,
UNDER MAIN SUSPICIES OF WORLD PEACE CONGRESS AND AFRO-ASIAN
SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, PLAN TO MEET IN NEW DELHI ON NOVEMBER 14
TO TAKE PART IN A FOUR-DAY CONFERENCE AGAINST THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF BASES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. AJMANI CONFIRMED THAT EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS MINISTER U.B. CHAVAN IS SCHEDULED TO INAUGURATE THE
MEETING, BUT SAID THAT THIS WAS ONLY A "COURTESY." AJMANI SAID
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THE MEETING WAS ENTIRELY PRIVATE, THAT THERE WOULD BE NO

OFFICIAL INDIAN REPRESENTATION AT THE CONFERENCE, AND THAT ITS RESOLUTIONS WOULD IN NO WAY BE BINDING ON THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT. POLITICAL COUNSELOR RESPONDED THAT WE HAD RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO THE OPENING OF THE MEETING AND WOULD BE ON HAND TO HEAR WHAT CHAVAN HAD TO SAY.

2. THE INVITATIONS TO THE OPENING CEREMONY RECEIVED BY AT LEAST TWO EMBASSY OFFICERS TITLE THE MEETING AN "INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INDIAN OCEAN AGAINST FOREIGN BASES AND FOR A ZONE OF PEACE." THE PARTICIPANTS ARE LISTED AS "ALL LITTORAL AND HINTERLAND STATES AROUND THE INDIAN OCEAN AND OTHER CONCERNED COUNTRIES, AMONG THEM, AFGHANISTAN, AUSTRALIA, BANGLADESH, BRITAIN, FRANCE, KENYA, IRAQ, MALAYSIA, MAURITIUS, MOZAMBIQUE, NEPAL, NEW ZEALAND, PAKISTAN, PORTUGAL, SRI LANKA, TANZANIA, VIETNAM, U.S., U.S.S.R., YEMEN AND TEN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AMONG THEM, WORLD PEACE COUNCIL, AFRO-ASIAN PEOPLE'S SOLIDARITY ORGANISATION, WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION, WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS."

3. A FEW DAYS AGO A WELL PLACED INDIAN JOURNALIST WHO IS CLOSE TO CHAVAN TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT IN THE WAKE OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT WE SHOULD ANTICIPATE THAT THE GOI WILL THROW SEVERAL BONES TO THE INDIAN LEFT ALONG THE LINES OF THE CHAVAN APPEARANCE. THIS IS THE BE AN INDICATION FOR THE RECORD THAT THE GOI HAS NOT "SOLD OUT" TO THE US, AND SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TOO SERIOUSLY, THE JORNALIST ASSERTED.

4. PRESUMABLY PRESIDENT FAKRUDDIN ALI AHMED'S INAUGURATION OF THE ASIAN BUDDHIST CONFERENCE FOR PEACE, ANOTHER "FRONT" ORGANIZATION, LAST WEEK FELL INTO THE SAME CATEGORY OF "SOPS". WE FIND THE JORNALIST'S INTERPRETATION OF SUCH ACTIONS PLAUSIBLE IN TERMS OF CURRENT INDIAN POLITICAL BEHAVIOR PATTERNS. WE'VE PUT THE GOI ON NOTICE THAT WE PAY ATTENTION TO THE OPENING OF "FRONT" CONFERENCES BY SENIOR BOI OFFICIALS.

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